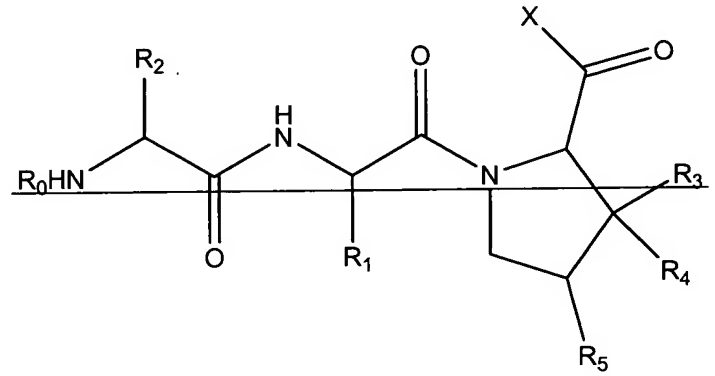
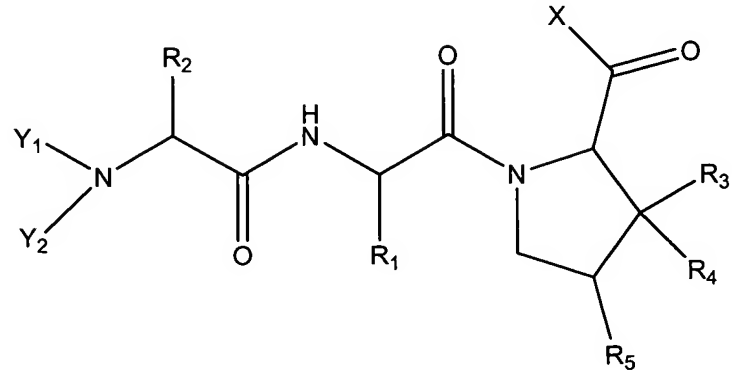
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I):





(I)

wherein X represents OH, (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH_2, NH-C_{1-5}-alkyl, or N(C_{1-5} alkyl)$_2$;

R_1 is a residue derived from one of the amino acids Phe, Tyr, Trp, Pro, which each may be optionally substituted with one or more (C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups or halogen atoms, as well as Ala, Val, Leu or Ile;

R_2 is a residue derived from one of the amino acids Gly, Ala, Ile, Val, Ser, Thr, Leu or Pro;

Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-5}) alkyl;

R_3 and R_4 independently from each other represent H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, provided that R_3 and R_4 are not both OH or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy; and

R_5 represents H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein * X represents (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH_2, NH-C_{1-5}-alkyl, or N(C_{1-5} alkyl)$_2$.

3. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein R_3 and R_4 independently from each other represent H, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, provided that R_3 and R_4 are not (C_{1-5}) alkoxy.

4. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_5 represents H, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy.

5. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease.

6. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the neurodegenerative disease is mild cognitive impairment.

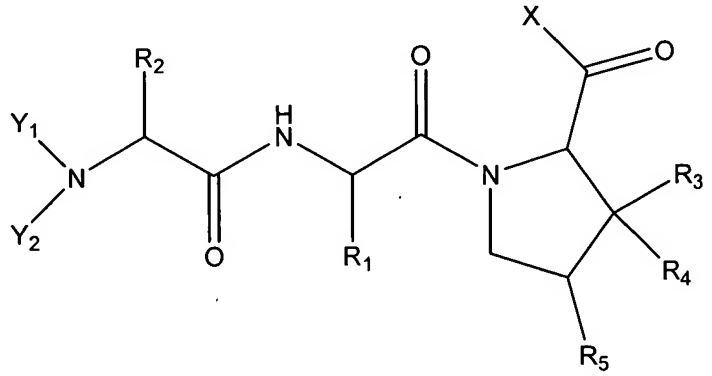
7. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from one of the amino acids Phe, Tyr, Trp, each of which may optionally be substituted with a (C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a halogen atom or which is derived from Ile.

8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from Phe, which may optionally be substituted with a (C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a halogen atom.

9. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is a residue which is derived from the amino acid Gly or Ile.

10. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is glycyl-L-phenylalanyl-L-prolineamide, N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-phenylalanyl-L-proline ethylamide, N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-isoleucyl-prolineamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising compounds of the following formula (I):



(I)

wherein X represents OH, (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH_2, NH-C_{1-5}-alkyl, N(C_{1-5} alkyl)$_2$;

R_1 is a residue derived from one of the amino acids Phe, which ~~each~~ may be optionally substituted with one or more (C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups or halogen atoms;

R_2 is a residue derived from one of the amino acids Gly, Ala, Ile, Val, Ser, Thr, Leu and Pro;

Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-5}) alkyl;
R_3 and R_4 independently from each other represent H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5})alkoxy, provided that R_3 and R_4 are not both OH or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy; and

R_5 represents H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof ;

and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

12. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein ~~x~~ X represents (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH_2, NH-C_{1-5} alkyl or N(C_{1-5} alkyl)$_2$.

13. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to ~~claims~~ claim 11 or 12, wherein R_2 is a residue which is derived from the amino acid Gly.

14. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the compound of formula (I) is glycyl-L-phenylalanyl-L-prolineamide, ~~N,N-diethyl-isoleucylphenylalanyl-L-proline ethylamide~~ N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-phenylalanyl-L-proline ethylamide, ~~N,N-diethyl-isoleucylisoleucyl-prolineamide~~ N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-isoleucyl-prolineamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (canceled)

16. (new): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from Phe which is optionally substituted with one or more (C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups or one or more halogen atoms, or which is derived from the amino acid Ile, R_2 is a residue derived from

the amino acid Gly or Ile, R_3, R_4 and R_5 represent a hydrogen atom, X is NH_2, NH-(C_{1-3}) alkyl or $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, and Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-3}) alkyl.

17. (new): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from Phe which is optionally substituted with one or more (C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups or one or more halogen atoms, or which is derived from the amino acid Ile, R_2 is a residue derived from the amino acid Gly or Ile, R_3, R_4 and R_5 represent a hydrogen atom, X is NH_2, NH-(C_{1-3}) alkyl or $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, and Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-3}) alkyl.